IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gregory D. PLOWMAN et al.

Title: DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF ALK-7 RELATED

DISORDERS

Prior Appl. No.: 09/069,228

Prior Appl. Filing Date: April 27, 1998

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Mail Stop NEW APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present Continuing Application, Applicant respectfully requests that the application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: